

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
15 July 2004 (15.07.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/059277 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷:

G01N

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/IB2003/006203

(22) International Filing Date:

24 December 2003 (24.12.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/436,496 26 December 2002 (26.12.2002) US

(71) Applicant and

(72) Inventor: TONG, Sun-Wing [CN/CN]; 9C Carlton Building, Tsimshatsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong (CN).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): CHAN, Olivia, Wai-Hin [CN/CN]; Kowloon, Hong Kong (CN). CHOW, Tat-Chong [CN/CN]; Shatin, Hong Kong (CN). YU, Vivian [CN/CN]; Kowloon, Hong Kong (CN).

(81) Designated States (national): CN, US.

Published:

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



WO 2004/059277 A2

(54) Title: METHODS OF COLLECTING AND TRANSPORTING VAGINAL DISCHARGE FOR DETECTION OF INFECTIOUS ORGANISMS AND TO FACILITATE CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a method of testing for the presence of infectious disease agents or host genetic markers comprising applying a device comprising an absorbent and porous material onto the introitus of a female patient; encouraging air drying of at least a portion of the collected vaginal discharge while the device is proximate to the introitus; and determining the presence of infectious disease agents or host genetic markers in the at least partially dried vaginal discharge.